



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete If Known			
		Application Number	10/612,491		
		Filing Date	July 1, 2003		
		First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID		
		Art Unit	3763		
Sheet	1	of	12	Examiner Name	Unassigned
				Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
09	1	2,201,610	05-21-1940	Dawson, Jr.	
	2	2,413,142	12-24-1945	Jones et al.	
	3	3,150,379	09-29-1964	Brown	
	4	3,166,072	01-19-1965	Sullivan, Jr.	
	5	3,494,006	02-10-1970	Brumlik	
	6	3,551,987	01-05-1971	Wilkinson	
	7	3,646,615	03-07-1972	Ness	
	8	3,664,345	05-23-1972	Dabbs et al.	
	9	3,753,438	08-21-1973	Wood et al.	
	10	3,867,944	02-25-1975	Samuels	
	11	3,874,388	04-01-1975	King et al.	
	12	3,910,281	10-07-1975	Kletschka et al.	
	13	3,976,079	08-24-1976	Samuels et al.	
	14	4,007,743	02-15-1977	Blake	
	15	4,060,089	11-29-1977	Noiles	
	16	4,069,825	01-24-1978	Akiyama	
	17	4,245,624	01-20-1981	Komiya	
	18	4,367,746	01-11-1983	Derechinsky	
	19	4,414,720	11-15-1983	Crooms	
	20	4,462,402	07-31-1984	Burgio	
	21	4,494,531	01-22-1985	Gianturco	
	22	4,532,926	08-06-1985	O'Holla	
	23	4,534,350	08-13-1985	Golden et al.	
	24	4,548,202	10-22-1985	Duncan	
	25	4,586,503	05-06-1986	Kirsh et al.	
	26	4,592,339	06-03-1986	Kumak et al.	
	27	4,592,356	06-03-1986	Gutierrez	
	28	4,595,007	06-17-1986	Mericle	
	29	4,610,250	09-09-1986	Green	
	30	4,669,473	06-02-1987	Richards et al.	
	31	4,705,040	11-10-1987	Mueller et al.	
	32	4,711,002	12-08-1987	Kreeger	
	33	4,724,840	02-16-1988	McVay et al.	
	34	4,750,492	06-14-1988	Jacobs et al.	
	35	4,765,335	08-23-1988	Schmidt et al.	
	36	4,832,055	05-23-1989	Palestrant	
	37	4,841,888	06-27-1989	Mills et al.	
	38	4,873,976	10-17-1989	Schreiber	
	39	4,890,615	01-02-1990	Caspari et al.	
	40	4,923,461	05-08-1990	Caspari et al.	
	41	4,929,240	05-29-1990	Kirsh et al.	

Examiner Signature	<i>Pruefer</i>	Date Considered	9/14/2006
-----------------------	----------------	--------------------	-----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

60329676 v1

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	2	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
B	42	4,957,498	09-18-1990	Caspari et al.	
	43	5,032,127	07-16-1991	Frazee et al.	
	44	5,035,692	07-30-1991	Lyon et al.	
	45	5,037,433	08-06-1991	Wilk et al.	
	46	5,041,129	08-20-1991	Hayhurst et al.	
	47	5,059,201	10-22-1991	Asnis	
	48	5,088,979	02-18-1992	Filipi et al.	
	49	5,100,418	03-31-1992	Yoon et al.	
	50	5,108,420	04-28-1992	Marks	
	51	5,122,136	06-16-1992	Gugliemi et al.	
	52	5,123,914	06-23-1992	Cope	
	53	5,201,746	04-13-1993	Shichman	
	54	5,203,864	04-20-1993	Phillips	
	55	5,217,471	06-08-1993	Burkhart	
	56	5,217,473	06-08-1993	Yoon	
	57	5,222,508	06-29-1993	Contarini	
	58	5,222,961	06-29-1993	Nakao et al.	
	59	5,222,963	06-29-1993	Brinkerhoff et al.	
	60	5,224,946	07-06-1993	Hayhurst et al.	
	61	5,234,430	08-10-1993	Huebner	
	62	5,234,445	08-10-1993	Walker et al.	
	63	5,250,053	10-05-1993	Snyder	
	64	5,254,126	10-19-1993	Filipi et al.	
	65	5,261,916	11-16-1993	Engelson	
	66	5,268,001	12-07-1993	Nicholson et al.	
	67	5,282,827	02-01-1994	Kensey et al.	
	68	5,284,488	02-08-1994	Sideris	
	69	5,304,184	04-19-1994	Hathaway et al.	
	70	5,304,195	04-19-1994	Twyford, Jr. et al.	
	71	5,304,204	04-19-1994	Bregen	
	72	5,316,543	05-31-1994	Eberbach	
	73	5,327,914	07-12-1994	Shlain	
	74	5,330,503	07-19-1994	Yoon	
	75	5,334,217	08-02-1994	Das	
	76	5,342,376	08-30-1994	Ruff	
	77	5,345,949	09-13-1994	Shlain	
	78	5,354,298	10-11-1994	Lee et al.	
	79	5,366,459	11-22-1994	Yoon	
	80	5,366,479	11-22-1994	McGarry et al.	
	81	5,372,146	12-13-1994	Branch	
	82	5,372,604	12-13-1994	Trott	

Examiner Signature	<i>Bmpt</i>	Date Considered	9/14/2006
-----------------------	-------------	--------------------	-----------

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	3	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
Bj	83	5,374,275	12-20-1994	Bradley et al.	
	84	5,380,334	01-10-1995	Torrie et al.	
	85	5,382,231	01-17-1995	Shlain	
	86	5,395,030	03-07-1995	Kuramoto et al.	
	87	5,403,326	04-04-1995	Harrison et al.	
	88	5,403,329	04-04-1995	Hinchcliffe	
	89	5,417,691	05-23-1995	Hayhurst et al.	
	90	5,417,699	05-23-1995	Klein et al.	
	91	5,425,744	06-20-1995	Fagan et al.	
	92	5,429,598	07-04-1995	Waxman et al.	
	93	5,431,666	07-11-1995	Sauer et al.	
	94	5,433,721	07-18-1995	Hooven et al.	
	95	5,433,727	07-18-1995	Sideris	
	96	5,437,680	08-01-1995	Yoon	
	97	5,437,681	08-01-1995	Meade et al.	
	98	5,445,167	08-29-1995	Yoon et al.	
	99	5,458,609	10-17-1995	Gordon et al.	
	100	5,462,560	10-31-1995	Stevens	
	101	5,462,561	10-31-1995	Voda	
	102	5,465,894	11-14-1995	Clark et al.	
	103	5,470,337	11-28-1995	Moss	
	104	5,470,338	11-28-1995	Whitfield et al.	
	105	5,476,470	12-19-1995	Fitzgibbons, Jr.	
106	5,478,354	12-26-1995	Tovey et al.		
107	5,480,405	01-02-1996	Yoon		
108	5,496,332	03-05-1996	Sierra et al.		
109	5,496,334	03-05-1996	Klundert et al.		
110	5,499,991	03-19-1996	Garman et al.		
111	5,501,691	03-26-1996	Goldrath		
112	5,507,811	04-16-1996	Kolke et al.		
113	5,520,691	05-28-1996	Branch		
114	5,520,701	05-28-1996	Lerch		
115	5,522,843	06-04-1996	Zang		
116	5,527,321	06-18-1996	Hinchliffe		
117	5,527,322	06-18-1996	Klein et al.		
118	5,527,342	06-18-1996	Pietrzak et al.		
119	5,531,759	07-02-1996	Kensey et al.		
120	5,531,788	07-02-1996	Dibie et al.		
121	5,540,704	07-30-1996	Gordon et al.		
122	5,549,621	08-27-1996	Bessler et al.		
123	5,562,684	10-08-1996	Kammerer		

Examiner Signature	<i>Bj</i>	Date Considered	9/14/2006
-----------------------	-----------	--------------------	-----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete If Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	4	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
Bj	124	5,562,686	10-08-1996	Sauer et al.	
	125	5,562,688	10-08-1996	Riza	
	126	5,569,274	10-29-1996	Rapacki et al.	
	127	5,569,306	10-29-1996	Thal	
	128	5,571,116	11-05-1996	Bolanos et al.	
	129	5,571,119	11-05-1996	Atala	
	130	5,573,540	11-12-1996	Yoon	
	131	5,573,548	11-12-1996	Nazre et al.	
	132	5,578,045	11-26-1996	Das	
	133	5,582,616	12-10-1996	Bolduc et al.	
	134	5,584,835	12-17-1996	Greenfield	
	135	5,584,859	12-17-1996	Brotz	
	136	5,601,557	02-11-1997	Hayhurst	
	137	5,603,718	02-18-1997	Xu	
	138	5,613,974	03-25-1997	Andreas et al.	
	139	5,613,975	03-25-1997	Christy	
140	5,626,588	05-06-1997	Sauer et al.		
141	5,626,614	05-06-1997	Hart		
142	5,630,540	05-20-1997	Blewett		
143	5,632,752	05-27-1997	Buelna		
144	5,643,274	07-01-1997	Sander et al.		
145	5,643,295	07-01-1997	Yoon		
146	5,643,317	07-01-1997	Pavcnik et al.		
147	5,643,320	07-01-1997	Lower et al.		
148	5,658,312	08-19-1997	Green et al.		
149	5,658,313	08-19-1997	Thal		
150	5,662,662	09-02-1997	Bishop et al.		
151	5,662,663	09-02-1997	Shallman		
152	5,665,109	09-09-1997	Yoon		
153	5,665,112	09-09-1997	Thal		
154	5,667,513	09-16-1997	Torrie et al.		
155	5,679,005	10-21-1997	Einstein		
156	5,683,417	11-04-1997	Cooper		
157	5,683,419	11-04-1997	Thal		
158	5,690,655	11-25-1997	Hart et al.		
159	5,693,060	12-02-1997	Martin		
160	5,700,273	12-23-1997	Buelna et al.		
161	5,702,421	12-30-1997	Schneidt		
162	5,707,394	01-13-1998	Miller et al.		
163	5,709,708	01-20-1998	Thal		
164	5,713,903	02-03-1998	Sander et al.		

Examiner Signature	<i>Bj</i>	Date Considered	9/14/2004
--------------------	-----------	-----------------	-----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete If Known		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	5	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
Rj	165	5,720,765	02-24-1998	Thal	
	166	5,724,978	03-10-1998	Tenhoff	
	167	5,725,552	03-10-1998	Kotula et al.	
	168	5,732,707	03-31-1998	Widder et al.	
	169	5,741,297	04-21-1998	Simon	
	170	5,749,893	05-12-1998	Vidal et al.	
	171	5,752,963	05-19-1998	Allard et al.	
	172	5,766,189	06-16-1998	Matsuno	
	173	5,779,719	07-14-1998	Klein et al.	
	174	5,782,859	07-21-1998	Nicholas et al.	
	175	5,782,865	07-21-1998	Grotz	
	176	5,787,897	08-04-1998	Kieturakis	
	177	5,792,152	08-11-1998	Klein et al.	
	178	5,792,153	08-11-1998	Swain et al.	
	179	5,797,929	08-25-1998	Andreas et al.	
	180	5,797,960	08-25-1998	Stevens et al.	
	181	5,810,849	09-22-1998	Kontos	
	182	5,810,851	09-22-1998	Yoon	
	183	5,810,853	09-22-1998	Yoon	
	184	5,814,070	09-29-1998	Borzone et al.	
	185	5,817,110	10-06-1998	Kronner	
	186	5,823,956	10-20-1998	Roth et al.	
	187	5,824,011	10-20-1998	Stone et al.	
	188	5,827,298	10-27-1998	Hart et al.	
	189	5,829,447	11-03-1998	Stevens et al.	
190	5,836,955	11-17-1998	Buelna et al.		
191	5,840,078	11-24-1998	Yerys		
192	5,843,084	12-01-1998	Hart et al.		
193	5,843,126	12-01-1998	Jameel		
194	5,846,261	12-08-1998	Kotula et al.		
195	5,855,614	01-05-1999	Stevens et al.		
196	5,860,991	01-19-1999	Klein et al.		
197	5,861,003	01-19-1999	Latson et al.		
198	5,868,762	02-09-1999	Cragg et al.		
199	5,879,371	03-09-1999	Gardiner et al.		
200	5,887,594	03-30-1999	LoCiero, III		
201	5,888,247	03-30-1999	Benetti		
202	5,891,168	04-06-1999	Thal		
203	5,893,856	04-13-1999	Jacobs et al.		
204	5,895,404	04-20-1999	Ruiz		
✓	205	5,897,562	04-27-1999	Bolanos et al.	
Examiner Signature	Bryant		Date Considered	9/14/2006	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	6	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
[Signature]	206	5,899,920	05-04-1999	DeSatnick et al.	
	207	5,899,921	05-04-1999	Caspari et al.	
	208	5,901,895	05-11-1999	Heaton et al.	
	209	5,916,224	06-29-1999	Esplin	
	210	5,925,059	07-20-1999	Palermo et al.	
	211	5,928,264	07-27-1999	Sugarbaker et al.	
	212	5,944,738	08-31-1999	Amplatz et al.	
	213	5,947,983	09-07-1999	Solar et al.	
	214	5,947,997	09-07-1999	Pavcnik et al.	
	215	5,948,001	09-07-1999	Larsen	
	216	5,954,732	09-21-1999	Hart et al.	
	217	5,961,440	10-05-1999	Schweich, Jr. et al.	
	218	5,964,765	10-12-1999	Fenton, Jr. et al.	
	219	5,964,782	10-12-1999	Lafontaine et al.	
	220	5,964,783	10-12-1999	Grafton et al.	
	221	5,976,127	11-02-1999	Lax	
	222	5,976,158	11-02-1999	Adams et al.	
	223	5,976,159	11-02-1999	Bolduc et al.	
	224	5,980,558	11-09-1999	Wiley	
	225	5,984,933	11-16-1999	Yoon	
	226	5,993,476	11-30-1999	Groiso	
	227	6,013,083	01-11-2000	Bennett	
	228	6,027,523	02-11-2000	Schmieding	
	229	6,033,430	03-07-2000	Bonutti	
	230	6,045,497	04-04-2000	Schweich, Jr. et al.	
	231	6,045,573	04-04-2000	Wenstrom, Jr. et al.	
232	6,050,936	04-18-2000	Schweich, Jr. et al.		
233	6,053,935	04-25-2000	Brenneman et al.		
234	6,059,715	05-09-2000	Schweich, Jr. et al.		
235	6,059,719	05-09-2000	Yamamoto et al.		
236	6,074,401	06-13-2000	Gardiner et al.		
237	6,077,214	06-20-2000	Mortier et al.		
238	6,077,281	06-20-2000	Das		
239	6,077,291	06-20-2000	Das		
240	6,079,414	06-27-2000	Roth et al.		
241	6,086,600	07-11-2000	Kortenbach		
242	6,110,183	08-29-2000	Cope		
243	6,113,609	09-05-2000	Adams		
244	6,113,611	09-05-2000	Allen et al.		
245	6,119,913	09-19-2000	Adams et al.		
246	6,149,658	11-21-2000	Gardiner et al.		
Examiner Signature	[Signature]		Date Considered	9/14/2006	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete If Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	7	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (If known)			
PJ	247	6,152,935	11-28-2000	Kammerer et al.	
	248	6,159,146	12-12-2000	El Gazayerli	
	249	6,162,168	12-19-2000	Schweich, Jr. et al.	
	250	6,165,119	12-26-2000	Schweich, Jr. et al.	
	251	6,165,120	12-26-2000	Schweich, Jr. et al.	
	252	6,167,889	01-02-2001	Benetti	
	253	6,171,320	01-09-2001	Monassevitch	
	254	6,174,323	01-16-2001	Biggs et al.	
	255	6,179,195	01-30-2001	Adams et al.	
	256	6,183,411	02-06-2001	Mortier et al.	
	257	6,197,022	03-06-2001	Baker	
	258	6,214,007	04-10-2001	Anderson	
	259	6,231,561	05-15-2001	Frazier et al.	
	260	6,245,079	06-12-2001	Nobles et al.	
	261	6,260,552	07-17-2001	Mortier et al.	
	262	6,261,222	07-17-2001	Schweich, Jr. et al.	
	263	6,264,602	07-24-2001	Mortier et al.	
	264	6,270,515	08-07-2001	Linden et al.	
	265	6,283,973	09-04-2001	Hubbard et al.	
	266	6,290,674	09-18-2001	Roue et al.	
	267	6,293,956	09-25-2001	Crainich et al.	
	268	6,296,656	10-02-2001	Bolduc et al.	
	269	6,306,159	10-23-2001	Schwartz et al.	
	270	6,312,437	11-06-2001	Kortenbach	
	271	6,315,789	11-13-2001	Cragg	
	272	6,322,563	11-27-2001	Cummings et al.	
	273	6,322,580	11-27-2001	Kanner	
	274	6,332,468	12-25-2001	Benetti	
275	6,332,863	12-25-2001	Schweich, Jr. et al.		
276	6,332,864	12-25-2001	Schweich, Jr. et al.		
277	6,332,893	12-25-2001	Mortier et al.		
278	6,336,940	01-08-2002	Graf et al.		
279	6,346,074	02-12-2002	Roth		
280	6,348,064	02-19-2002	Kanner		
281	6,355,052	03-12-2002	Neuss et al.		
282	6,358,197	03-19-2002	Silverman et al.		
283	6,363,938	04-02-2002	Saadat et al.		
284	6,368,339	04-09-2002	Amplatz et al.		
285	6,387,104	05-14-2002	Pugsley, Jr.		
286	6,402,679	06-11-2002	Mortier et al.		
287	6,402,680	06-11-2002	Mortier et al.		

Examiner Signature	<i>Dr. PJ</i>	Date Considered	9/14/2006
-----------------------	---------------	--------------------	-----------

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	8	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
89	288	6,406,420	06-18-2002	McCarthy et al.	
	289	6,423,087	07-23-2002	Sawada	
	290	6,425,911	07-30-2002	Akerfeldt et al.	
	291	6,447,533	09-10-2002	Adams et al.	
	292	6,494,888	12-17-2002	Laufer et al.	
	293	6,506,196	01-14-2003	Laufer	
	294	6,533,796	03-18-2003	Sauer et al.	
	295	6,537,285	03-25-2003	Hatasaka, Jr. et al.	
	296	6,554,845	04-29-2003	Fleenor et al.	
	297	6,558,400	05-06-2003	Deem et al.	
	298	6,572,629	06-03-2003	Kaloo et al.	
	299	6,641,592	11-04-2003	Sauer et al.	
	300	6,656,194	12-02-2003	Gannoe et al.	
	301	6,663,639	12-16-2003	Laufer et al.	
	302	6,695,764	02-24-2004	Silverman et al.	
	303	6,716,232	04-06-2004	Vidal et al.	
	304	6,719,763	04-13-2004	Chung et al.	
	305	6,719,764	04-13-2004	Gellman et al.	
	306	6,736,828	05-18-2004	Adams et al.	
	307	6,746,460	06-08-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	308	6,755,843	06-29-2004	Chung et al.	
	309	6,773,440	08-10-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	310	6,773,441	08-10-2004	Laufer et al.	
	311	2001/0016675	08-23-2001	Mortier et al.	
	312	2001/0025171	09-27-2001	Mortier et al.	
	313	2001/0049509	12-06-2001	Sekine et al.	
	314	2001/0051815	12-13-2001	Esplin	
	315	2001/0056282	12-27-2001	Sonnenschein et al.	
	316	2002/0010490	01-24-2002	Schaller et al.	
	317	2002/0013608	01-31-2002	ElAttrache et al.	
	318	2002/0019649	02-14-2002	Sikora et al.	
	319	2002/0022851	02-21-2002	Kaloo et al.	
320	2002/0029080	03-07-2002	Mortier et al.		
321	2002/0040226	04-04-2002	Laufer et al.		
322	2002/0055757	05-09-2002	Torre et al.		
323	2002/0058855	05-16-2002	Schweich, Jr. et al.		
324	2002/0065534	05-30-2002	Hermann et al.		
325	2002/0068849	06-06-2002	Schweich, Jr. et al.		
326	2002/0068945	06-06-2002	Sixto, Jr. et al.		
327	2002/0072761	06-13-2002	Abrams et al.		
328	2002/0077524	06-20-2002	Schweich, Jr. et al.		

Examiner Signature	<i>Dr. J. A. Smith</i>	Date Considered	9/14/2006
-----------------------	------------------------	--------------------	-----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete If Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	9	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
PJ	329	2002/0078967	06-27-2002	Sixto, Jr. et al.	
	330	2002/0082621	06-27-2002	Schurr et al.	
	331	2002/0082622	06-27-2002	Kane	
	332	2002/0107530	08-08-2002	Sauer et al.	
	333	2002/0183768	12-05-2002	Deem et al.	
	334	2002/0193816	12-19-2002	Laufer et al.	
	335	2003/0009085	01-09-2003	Arai et al.	
	336	2003/0055442	03-20-2003	Laufer et al.	
	337	2003/0065359	04-03-2003	Weller et al.	
	338	2003/0109892	06-12-2003	Deem et al.	
	339	2003/0139752	07-24-2003	Pasricha et al.	
	340	2003/0158582	08-21-2003	Bonutti et al.	
	341	2003/0167062	09-04-2003	Gambale et al.	
	342	2003/0171651	09-11-2003	Page et al.	
	343	2003/0171760	09-11-2003	Gambale	
	344	2003/0181924	09-25-2003	Yamamoto et al.	
	345	2003/0204205	10-30-2003	Sauer et al.	
	346	2003/0208209	11-06-2003	Gambale et al.	
	347	2003/0216613	11-20-2003	Suzuki et al.	
	348	2003/0225312	12-04-2003	Suzuki et al.	
	349	2003/0229296	12-11-2003	Ishikawa et al.	
	350	2003/0236536	12-25-2003	Grigoryants et al.	
	351	2003/0240205	10-30-2003	Sauer et al.	
	352	2004/0010271	01-15-2004	Kortenbach	
	353	2004/0030347	02-12-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	354	2004/0049095	03-11-2004	Goto et al.	
	355	2004/0059346	03-25-2004	Adams et al.	
	356	2004/0082963	04-29-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	357	2004/0088008	05-06-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	358	2004/0092974	05-13-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	359	2004/0093091	05-13-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	360	2004/0122452	06-24-2004	Deem et al.	
	361	2004/0122453	06-24-2004	Deem et al.	
	362	2004/0138682	07-15-2004	Onuki et al.	
	363	2004/0147941	07-29-2004	Takemoto	
	364	2004/0176784	09-09-2004	Okada	
	365	2004/0193117	09-30-2004	Laufer et al.	
	366	2004/0193184	09-30-2004	Laufer et al.	
	367	2004/0193193	09-30-2004	Laufer et al.	
368	2004/0193194	09-30-2004	Laufer et al.		
369	2004/0194790	10-07-2004	Laufer et al.		
Examiner Signature	D. J. P. J.		Date Considered	9/14/2006	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete If Known			
		Application Number	10/612,491		
		Filing Date	July 1, 2003		
		First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID		
		Art Unit	3763		
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	10	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
<i>M</i>	370	H2037 H	07-02-2002	Yates et al.	
	371	RE 34,021 E	08-04-1992	Mueller et al.	
<i>V</i>	372	RE 37,117 E	03-27-2001	Palermo	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
<i>M</i>	373	EP	0 480 428	A2	04-15-1992	Filipi et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	374	EP	0 847 727	A1	06-17-1998	Kammere et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	375	EP	1 031 321	A1	08-30-2000	Grafton et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	376	FR	2 768 324	A1	03-19-1999	Seguin		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	377	GB	2 165 559	A	04-16-1986	Mills et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	378	WO	92/04870	A1	04-02-1992	Mills et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	379	WO	95/19140	A1	07-20-1995	Meade et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	380	WO	95/25468	A1	09-28-1995	Swain et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	381	WO	99/22649	A2	05-14-1999	Kortenbach		<input type="checkbox"/>
	382	WO	00/78227	A1	12-28-2000	Laufer et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	383	WO	00/40159	A1	07-13-2000	Yeung et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	384	WO	00/57796	A1	10-05-2000	Rosenblatt		<input type="checkbox"/>
	385	WO	00/78229	A1	12-28-2000	Laufer et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	386	WO	01/21246	A1	03-26-2001	Matsuura et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	387	WO	01/66001	A2	09-13-2001	Gambale et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	388	WO	01/66018	A1	09-13-2001	Gambale et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	389	WO	01/85034	A1	11-15-2001	Geitz		<input type="checkbox"/>
	390	WO	01/87144	A1	11-22-2001	Page et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	391	WO	01/89370	A2	11-29-2001	Lehman et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	392	WO	01/89392	A2	11-29-2001	Jacobs et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	393	WO	01/89393	A1	11-29-2001	Gambale		<input type="checkbox"/>
	394	WO	02/00119	A2	01-03-2002	Harvie et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	395	WO	02/064012	A2	08-22-2002	Buehlmann et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	396	WO	02/085252	A1	10-31-2002	Hlavka et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	397	WO	02/094105	A2	11-28-2002	Adams		<input type="checkbox"/>
	398	WO	02/24080	A2	03-28-2002	Schurr et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	399	WO	02/39880	A2	05-23-2002	McClellan et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	400	WO	03/007796	A2	01-30-2003	Laufer et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	401	WO	03/007799	A2	01-30-2003	Ritchart		<input type="checkbox"/>
	402	WO	03/090633	A2	11-06-2003	Kortenbach et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	403	WO	03/096909	A1	11-27-2003	DiCarlo et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>V</i>	404	WO	03/099137	A2	12-04-2003	Cerier et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature	<i>Dr. A.</i>	Date Considered	9/14/2006
--------------------	---------------	-----------------	-----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.


Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	11	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US


FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
RJ	405	WO	2004/004544	A2	01-14-2004	Deem et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	406	WO	2004/019787	A2	03-11-2004	Devries et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	407	WO	2004/019788	A2	03-11-2004	Devries et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	408	WO	2004/021865	A2	03-18-2004	Zirps et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	409	WO	2004/021867	A2	03-18-2004	Zirps et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	410	WO	2004/021868	A2	03-18-2004	Zirps et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	411	WO	2004/021873	A2	03-18-2004	Aznoian et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	412	WO	2004/021894	A1	03-18-2004	Stone		<input type="checkbox"/>
	413	WO	2004/075787	A1	09-10-2004	Beulke et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	7/14/2004
-----------------------	---	--------------------	-----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 801.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete If Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	12	of	12	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	414	ANGIOLINK, The Expanding Vascular Staple [brochure], 1 page total.	
	415	BLUETT et al., "Experimental Evaluation of Staple Lines in Gastric Surgery," <i>Arch. Surg.</i> , vol. 122, (Jul. 1987), pp. 772-776.	
	416	BROLIN et al., "Experimental Evaluation of Techniques of Gastric Partitioning for Morbid Obesity, Surgery, Gynecology & Obstetrics, vol. 153, (Dec. 1981), pp. 878-882	
	417	JOHNSTON et al. "The Magenstrasse and Mill Operation of Morbid Obesity", <i>Obesity Surgery</i> 13, (2003), pp. 10-16.	
	418	OKUDAIRA et al., "The Healing and Tensile Strength of the Gastroplasty Staple Line," <i>The American Surgeon</i> , (Oct. 1984), pp.564-568.	
	419	SURGICAL DYNAMICS INC., The S-D-sorb Meniscal Stapler [brochure] (1997), 3 pages total.	
✓	420	SUTURA, The Next Generation in Vascular Suturing Devices: SuperStitch [brochure], 2 pages total.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	9/14/2006
-----------------------	---	--------------------	-----------

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/612,491
Filing Date	July 1, 2003
First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID
Art Unit	3763
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
21	1	4,235,238	11-25-1980	Ogiu et al.	
	2	5,037,433	08-06-1991	Wilk et al.	
	3	6,821,285 B2	11-23-2004	Laufer et al.	
	4	6,835,199 B2	12-28-2004	McGuckin, Jr. et al.	
	5	2003/0176890 A1	09-18-2003	Buckman et al.	
	6	2004/0122474 A1	06-24-2004	Gellman et al.	
	7	2004/0193117 A1	09-30-2004	Laufer et al.	
	8	2004/0193184 A1	09-30-2004	Laufer et al.	
	9	2004/0193193 A1	09-30-2004	Laufer et al.	
	10	2004/0193194 A1	09-30-2004	Laufer et al.	
	11	2004/0194790 A1	10-07-2004	Laufer et al.	
	12	2004/0210243 A1	10-21-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	13	2004/0215216 A1	10-28-2004	Gannoe et al.	
	14	2004/0243152 A1	12-02-2004	Taylor et al.	
	15	2004/0249362 A1	12-09-2004	Levine et al.	
	16	2004/0249392 A1	12-09-2004	Mikkaichi et al.	
	17	2004/0249395 A1	12-09-2004	Mikkaichi et al.	
	18	2005/0033320 A1	02-10-2005	McGuckin, Jr. et al.	
	19	2005/0043758 A1	02-24-2005	Golden et al.	
	20	2005/0049617 A1	03-03-2005	Chatynne et al.	
	21	2005/0070931 A1	03-31-2005	Li et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	□
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
21	22	WO	02/060328	A1	08-08-2002	Rex Medical, Inc.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	23	WO	03/092509	A1	11-13-2003	Scimed Life Systems, Inc.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	24	WO	03/094785	A1	11-20-2003	Egan		<input type="checkbox"/>
	25	WO	03/105732	A1	12-24-2003	Cancel et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	26	WO	2004/004542	A2	01-15-2004	Satiety, Inc.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	27	WO	2004/019788	A2	03-11-2004	Scimed Life Systems, Inc.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	28	WO	2004/021894	A1	03-18-2004	Kelleher		<input type="checkbox"/>
	29	WO	2004/056273	A1	07-08-2004	Scimed Life Systems, Inc.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	30	WO	2004/084808	A2	10-07-2004	The Research Foundation of State University of New York		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Examiner Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>			Date Considered	7/14/2006		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	2	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
DJ ↓	31	WO	2004/103189	A1	12-02-2004	C.R. Bard, Inc.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	32	WO	2005/004727	A1	01-20-2005	Endogun Medical Systems, Ltd		<input type="checkbox"/>
	33	WO	2005/037072	A2	04-28-2005	Esophyx, Inc		<input type="checkbox"/>
	34	WO	2005/037152	A1	04-28-2005	Synecor, LLC		<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	9/14/2004
-----------------------	---	--------------------	-----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 608. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

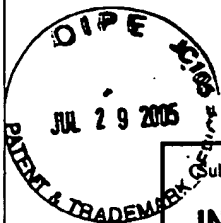
Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete If Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	3	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
<i>dy</i>	35	CHUTTANI et al., "A Novel Endoscopic Full-thickness Plicator for Treatment of GERD: An Animal Model Study," <i>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</i> , Vol. 26, No. 1, (2002), pp. 116-122.	
<i>J</i>	36	MASON, "Development of Future of Gastropplasties for Morbid Obesity," <i>Arch Surg</i> , Vol. 138 (April 2003), pp. 362-366.	

Examiner Signature	<i>Diaper</i>	Date Considered	9/14/2006
-----------------------	---------------	--------------------	-----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/612,491	
			Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	SAADAT, VAHID	
			Art Unit	3763	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	021496-002112US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
Dy	1	5,073,166	12-17-1991	Parks et al.	
	2	5,814,064	09-29-1998	Daniel et al.	
	3	6,056,770	05-02-2000	Epstein et al.	
	4	6,238,412 B1	05-29-2001	Dubrul et al.	
	5	6,306,163 B1	10-23-2001	Fitz	
	6	6,391,044 B1	05-21-2002	Yadav et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ²
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
								<input type="checkbox"/>
								<input type="checkbox"/>

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	9/14/2006
-----------------------	--	--------------------	-----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.